Gauge conversion of Bareilly-Tanakpur rail line

†377. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the Bareilly-Tanakpur meter gauge line into broad gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternative steps proposed to be taken for the convenience of persons belonging to Champawat and Pithoragarh districts adjoining Tanakpur and those belonging to frontier Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The gauge conversion of Bareilly-Bhojipura has been taken up as a part of Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura-Bareilly-Lalkua (544.50 Kms) gauge conversion project. Further, the proposal of gauge conversion of Bhojipura-Tanakpur has been processed for necessary approvals.

(c) Does not arise.

Train dacoities in Jharkhand

†378. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train dacoities in Jharkhand during each year of the last three years;

(b) whether any passenger was killed during the said incidents; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to control such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The number of dacoities reported in trains in Jharkhand during the last three years *i.e.* 2004, 2005 and 2006 (upto September) is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.